

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1–14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) An antibody-dye conjugate that accumulates in an edge area of [[a]]cell tissue of a focus of a disease and thus makes the edge area of the focus of the disease optically detectable,

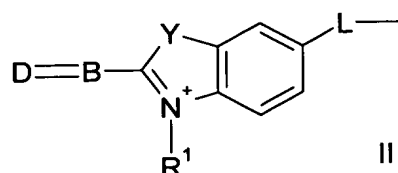
wherein the conjugate is a compound of formula I



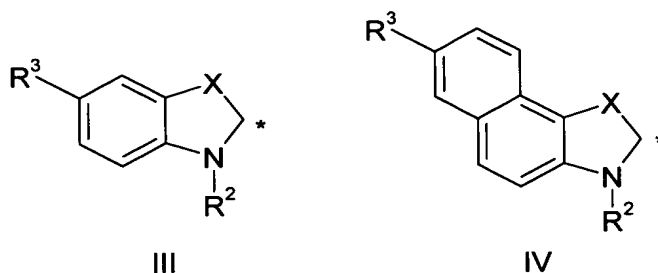
wherein

A is an antibody or an antibody fragment with high binding affinity to EDB-fibronectin,

F is a cyanine dye of formula II

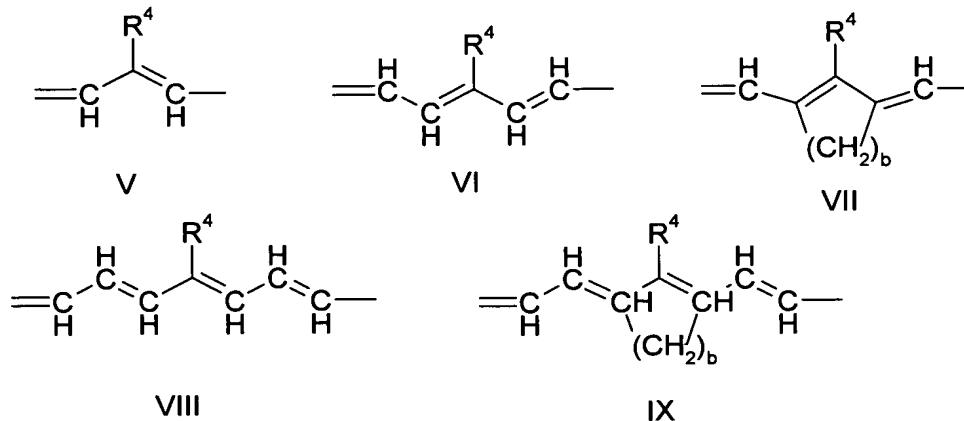


D is a radical III or IV



wherein the position labeled with * designates the interface site with radical B,

B is a group of formula V, VI, VII, VIII or IX



R^1 and R^2 are, each independently, C_1 - C_4 sulphoalkyl, a saturated or unsaturated, branched or linear C_1 - C_{50} alkyl chain, which is optionally substituted with up to 15 oxygen atoms, optionally substituted with up to 3 carbonyl groups, and optionally substituted with up to 5 hydroxy groups,

R^3 is $-\text{COOE}^1$, $-\text{CONE}^1\text{E}^2$, $-\text{NHCOE}^1$, $-\text{NHCONHE}^1$, $-\text{NE}^1\text{E}^2$, $-\text{OE}^1$, $-\text{OSO}_3\text{E}^1$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{E}^1$, $-\text{SO}_2\text{NHE}^1$ or $-\text{E}^1$,

E^1 and E^2 are, independently of one another, a hydrogen atom, C_1 - C_4 sulphoalkyl, saturated or unsaturated, branched or straight-chain C_1 - C_{50} alkyl, which is optionally interrupted with up to 15 oxygen atoms, and optionally interrupted with up to 3 carbonyl groups, and is optionally substituted with up to 5 hydroxy groups,

R^4 is a hydrogen atom or a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom,

b is 2 or 3,

X and Y are oxygen, sulphur, $=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ or $-(\text{CH}=\text{CH})-$,

L is a direct bond or a straight-chain or branched carbon chain with up to 20 carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted with one or more -OH, -COOH, or SO₃ groups and optionally interrupted, in one or more places, by an -O-, -S-, -CO-, -CS-, -CONH-, -NHCO-, -NHCSNH-, -SO₂-, PO₄- or an -NH- group or an aryl ring,

and

n is 1 to 5,

and wherein said conjugate accumulates in an edge area of [[a]] cell tissue of a focus of a disease and thus makes the edge area of the focus of the disease optically detectable.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) An antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 15, wherein the antibody is L19 or E1.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) An antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 15, wherein the dye in the visible spectral range of light induces an optical signal.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented) An antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 16, wherein the dye in the visible spectral range of light induces an optical signal.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) An antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 15, wherein the dye induces a fluorescence signal only with use of a defined wavelength range of visible or near-infrared light.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) An antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 16, wherein the dye induces a fluorescence signal only with use of a defined wavelength range of visible or near-infrared light.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more antibody-dye conjugates according to Claim 15 and a pharmaceutically acceptable solvent, buffer or vehicle.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more antibody-dye conjugates according to Claim 16 and a pharmaceutically acceptable solvent, buffer or vehicle.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) A method for intraoperative visualization of edge areas of a focus of a disease comprising administering an antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 15 and visualizing the edge areas of a focus of a disease during an operation on a patient.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 23, wherein the visualization is microscopic and macroscopic.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 23, wherein the disease is an angiogenesis-dependent disease, malignant tumor or metastases thereof, benign tumor, precancerous tissue changes, endometriosis, hemangiomas or an ectopic pregnancy.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 25, wherein the visualization is performed during surgery ~~which is in the context of surgical treatment.~~

Claim 27 (Currently Amended) A method for intraoperative visualization of foci of a disease comprising administering an antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 16 and visualizing edge areas of a focus of a disease.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended) A method for intraoperative visualization of edge areas of a focus of a disease comprising administering an antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 16 and visualizing edge areas of a focus of a disease.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 28, wherein the visualization is microscopic and macroscopic.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 27, wherein the disease is an angiogenesis-dependent disease, malignant tumor, or metastases thereof, benign tumor, precancerous tissue changes, endometriosis, hemangiomas or an ectopic pregnancy.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 30, wherein the visualization is performed during surgery which is in the context of surgical treatment.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended) A method for intraoperative visualization of edge areas of a focus of a disease comprising administering an antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 18 and visualizing edge areas of a focus of a disease.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended) A method for intraoperative visualization of edge areas of a focus of a disease comprising administering an antibody-dye conjugate according to Claim 20 and visualizing edge areas of a focus of a disease.